



Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

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Date: April 14, 2015

Bulletin: No. 2015-06

Subject: **Amendment to First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel**

The California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) is authorized to establish First Aid/CPR/AED training standards for public safety personnel. EMSA has revised the California Code of Regulations, Division 9, Title 22, Chapter 1.5, First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel. The new regulations took effect April 1, 2015. The text of the amendment is available on the [EMSA Website](http://www.emsa.ca.gov).

Within the recently adopted regulations, there are additional authorized skills and training including, but not limited to: AED; EMS integration with active shooter; assisting in the administration of a patient's physician-prescribed naloxone and epinephrine auto-injector; and control of bleeding, to include direct pressure, tourniquet, hemostatic dressings, chest seals and other dressings. The immediate effect on most training programs is related to retraining requirements.

POST, EMSA, and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) have collaborated to update the Training and Testing Specifications (TTS) of Learning Domain 34, First Aid, CPR, and AED. Additional work will begin shortly on developing instructor training and qualifications. To allow for proper training of staff, the TTS will not be changed until the revised instructor courses have been made available. The TTS will likely become effective on February 1, 2017.

There are three training courses being developed by POST to meet the requirements of the new regulations:

1. The initial training course for students in peace officer basic courses (21 hours of First Aid/CPR/AED),
2. In-service training for those personnel who were not initially trained in the new skills ("gap course" length to be determined), and
3. Recurring update training for personnel who received the initial training under the new regulations (eight hours of First Aid/CPR/AED).

POST, EMSA, and SMEs will also develop the requisite instructor courses for the courses listed above.

Changes to required retraining:

The new regulations require eight hours of retraining every two years. The prior regulations required 12 hours of retraining every three years. An officer may reduce the number of required hours of retraining by successfully completing a competency-based written and skills pretest.

Applying the new retraining time frames:

Anyone who completed First Aid/CPR training prior to April 1, 2015, is required to complete their retraining within three years from the date of training completion.

Example: Training was completed February 1, 2015. Retraining is required no later than February 1, 2018.

Anyone who completes First Aid/CPR/AED training on or after April 1, 2015, is required to complete retraining within two years from the date of training completion.

Example: Training is completed May 1, 2015. Retraining is required no later than May 1, 2017.

All training courses must include curriculum that complies with the new public safety personnel course content no later than April 1, 2017.

Agencies may have their revised training courses certified through the normal POST certification process. The requirements for those courses are not yet developed; agencies will be notified as they are completed. As an alternative, agencies may develop a training program and obtain approval of their curriculum through their LEMSA (local EMS agency). Training approved by the LEMSA is not eligible for CPT credit, unless the course has also been POST-approved.

The below table provides an overview of the various training tracks personnel may follow based on course-specific training dates:

Course	When Completed	Refresher Due Date	Course Content
Basic First Aid/CPR	Prior to April 1, 2015	3 years from course completion	12 hours of old content
Basic First Aid/CPR	Prior to April 1, 2017	2 years from course completion	Gap training >8 hours TBD
Refresher Training	Prior to April 1, 2015	3 years from course completion	12 hours of old content
Refresher Training	Prior to April 1, 2017	2 years from course completion	Gap training >8 hours TBD
Basic First Aid/CPR/AED and new Title 22 content	Prior to April 1, 2017	2 years from course completion	8 hours refresher training
Refresher Training First Aid/CPR/AED and new Title 22 content	Prior to April 1, 2017	2 years from course completion	8 hours refresher training

First Aid/CPR/AED instructors must have completed training in the new regulations no later than April 1, 2017.

There are also five optional skills listed in the new regulations. An agency head may request the LEMSA (local EMS agency) to authorize training and use any or all of the optional skills listed in the regulations. Previously, AED was the only optional skill.

Questions regarding the First Aid/CPR/AED training standards for public safety may be directed to POST Senior Consultant Phil Caporale, Basic Training Bureau, at (916) 227-2519, or by email at Phil.Caporale@post.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the specific content of the new regulations and authorized skills may be directed to Sean Trask, EMS Personnel Division Chief, Emergency Medical Services Authority, at (916) 431-3689, or by email at Sean.Trask@EMSA.ca.gov.

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